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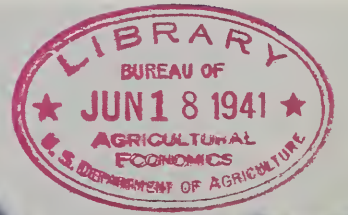
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Extension Service REVIEW

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AN Editorial

Food Is the Farmer's Defense Weapon

CLAUDE R. WICKARD, Secretary of Agriculture

■ Today food is a defense weapon, one of our strongest. Without food, Britain cannot continue to stand between the United States and the aggressor nations. It is no military secret that shipping losses have made Britain dependent upon the United States and Canada for food as well as for munitions.

As a part of our plan to supply Great Britain with food, we are going to convert the ever-normal granary into an ever-normal food supply. This conversion is not too easy a task. As farmers all know, converting feed into food is far different from converting steel or aluminum into implements of war.

The Department is attempting to stimulate the production of tomatoes, beans, and some other vegetables, as well as dairy products, hogs, chickens, and eggs named in the announcement of April 3. Commercial producers will be looked to for much of this, but it should not be overlooked that almost all farmers can produce more hogs, dairy products, poultry, and vegetables for home use. A live-at-home program on farms makes more food available for Britain and for our own people too.

From a broad standpoint, this program is a logical extension of existing programs. The food program would be impossible without the feed reserves stored up as a precaution against scarcity and emergency. Since 1933, we have rehabilitated our soil, and now we are in a position to produce more without wasting land and effort as we did during the first World War.

The farm programs of this administration have stood between farmers and the effects of the first World War. Today they are standing between farmers and injurious effects of this second war.

The world situation and our relation to it is foremost in our thinking today. Everything we are doing in this country is secondary to our defense effort. On its success or failure depends the future of the United States. With every passing day, I am becoming more and more convinced of its importance.

It is acknowledged, I think, that Great Britain will go down unless the United States sees that she gets munitions and food. Does anyone believe that the fall of Britain ends the danger of war for the United States? A few years ago people were inclined to laugh at the Nazi threats. Hit-

Farmers have now been called upon to step up production in defense of our American democracy and in aid of the defenders of democracy across the seas.

There is need for more of many of the foods required for the greatest health and strength of the people of this country and of the nations fighting for democracy.

Secretary Wickard has said: "It is a blessing to our Nation's cause that we have an efficient Extension Service and scores of thousands of trained farmer committeemen. These are key people in translating national agricultural policy into action and achievement."

We as extension workers can study the situation with local farmers as it develops, decide on what should be accomplished, and then

keep after it with our undivided effort, working with 4-H Clubs, home demonstration clubs, cooperative marketing associations, county planning committees, conservation associations, breed associations, and every other means open to us. We can help others to understand the facts and the underlying need. We can help farmers in many ways to produce more efficiently the increased food supplies needed. We can intensify our efforts toward a more adequate home-grown food and feed supply.

Events are moving rapidly. The world situation today is a challenge to all who believe in democracy, a challenge which is highlighted in the following statement summarized from a recent address by Secretary Wickard.

ler's opponents in Germany were inclined to laugh too.

Some British leaders thought that Hitler would listen to reason. After Munich he would settle down. Prime Minister Chamberlain thought that appeasement had guaranteed world peace for his time.

Let those people who are talking about warmongering think back a little while. Who attacked Poland? Who intervened in Spain? Who overran Austria and Czechoslovakia? Who gobbled up Denmark? Who invaded Norway?

In the light of history, the persons who believe that Britain's downfall would be followed by peace and prosperity need a guardian. They have no business wandering around loose in this cruel and chaotic world.

England has put a heroic struggle. She is living proof of the fact that democracy is worth fighting for. Otherwise, the English people would not have held out as they have. Yet, it is plain also that England will not survive if American

munitions and American food do not reach her in ever-increasing quantities. If we are not going to see that England gets our help, let us tell her so. It is a cruel and bitter mockery to let the English people believe we are going to make our help effective if we have only half-way measures in mind.

Speaking for myself, I would never ask the farmers of this country to grow more food for the British if I did not believe we would see that this food gets to the British. I do not believe the people of this country favor half-way measures. Let us do whatever is necessary to see that our food and munitions actually get to England—and let us do it right away. The situation is urgent, terribly urgent. Our food and munitions must not only be produced; they must be delivered, and delivered in time. The American people face the decision on this matter now. We run risks if we insist upon the delivery of our food and munitions to Great Britain, but any course we take involves risks.

EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW

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EXTENSION SERVICE, U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D. C. • M. L. WILSON, Director • REUBEN BRIGHAM, Assistant Director

Iowa Builds Informed Citizens

GERTRUDE DIEKEN, Assistant Extension Editor, Iowa

■ Seven thoroughly thrilled 4-H girls and boys from Iowa farms went to New York the first week in May to see how the other three-fourths—the urban—live.

Their plans were rather grown-up; the zoo was not on their list of “to-do’s.” But they went to see a huge terminal market, a milk train, a tenement housing project, and the slums. They went to live with city boys and girls in their apartment-house homes whose roofs shelter thousands in the space of one farm garden.

This 4-H adventure is called by grown-ups in Iowa—the 4-H staff, to be precise—a “new venture in education.” It is only one of Iowa’s projects to emphasize intelligent citizenship today more than ever before.

Last summer five New York City girls from the social studies section of Lincoln High School in New York came to Iowa to visit the 4-H girls at their annual State convention and to live for a week on Iowa farms. These bright lasses, to whom tractors, cornfields, and haymaking were a fascination, brought the urban viewpoint to Iowa girls in panel discussions which were a convention feature.

Turn about, the Iowa girls and their 4-H brothers repaid the visit. They represented the rural point of view in panel discussions, and they did it well. They know the farm program because some of them are following it on their farms; they have helped to contour and control gullies; they know about price pegging and corn sealing.

The seven 4-H-ers were selected from the high 18 on a basis of their insight into these things and their articulateness as revealed by personal interview. The high 18 had been weeded out of the entries (one to a county) on a basis of long-time club records and scholastic standings. Trips were financed by the Carnegie Endowment of New York City and the Iowa Economic Policy Committee. Two State 4-H staff members accompanied the group.

Rural-urban consciousness is part of a larger world-conscious program actively fused

into the Iowa 4-H girl’s program. Working with Miss Ursula Hubbard of the Carnegie Endowment, A. Drummond Jones of the United States Department of Agriculture, and Harry Terrell of the Des Moines Peace Council, Mrs. Edith Barker, State 4-H girls’ leader, introduced panel discussions to 4-H girls in 1938. The first series took the girls beyond the barbed-wire enclosures of their own farms, beyond their communities, and into their responsibilities as world citizens.

That fall, the discussion program, “A 4-H Girl Looks at a Democracy,” was initiated because it was felt that we must care deeply for that which we would defend. And in order to care, we must evaluate and compare and understand.

Came spring, 1939, and more discussion training schools for 4-H girls on the topic, How Would You Like To Live That Way? This topic opened comparison of opportunities in various countries of the world.

Fall 1939 brought an invitation from the Iowa Economic Policy Committee for a 4-H girl panel on democracy at their annual meeting. A prominent urban clergyman, totally disassociated from club work, said in an address:

“I had a thrilling experience week before last. I heard a panel discussion carried on by eight members of various 4-H Clubs in the State of Iowa. All of them were girls, in their late teens or early twenties. If anybody thinks that the young people of our day are jazz-minded or empty-minded, he should have been there.

Well, these girls were talking about democracy. First of all, about what democracy really is.

“One of them started the ball rolling by saying: ‘Democracy is a form of government. It is a way of getting somewhere by way of persuasion instead of force.’

“But,” said still another, ‘it isn’t simply a form of government; it is a way of life. It is a way of life founded on respect for people.’ ‘That’s right,’ said another, ‘democracy is fun-

damentally an attitude toward people. It means that you respect the rights of other people.’

“‘What are those rights?’ Quickly the answers came back: ‘The right to achieve. The right to advance. The right to make all the progress a man is capable of! The right to grow. The right to develop one’s personality to the fullest possible measure. The right to equal opportunity for education and economic security and self-development.’

“Then somebody else said: ‘We mustn’t forget the right to differ.’

“‘One thing I like about democracy,’ said somebody else, ‘is that it isn’t finished. There’s always room for change in it.’

“Well, these are a few samples of what these girls said about democracy. I sat there with my mouth open and with thrills running up and down my spine. This is great stuff, I said to myself. And then I said again to myself, this sounds like religion.”

Last year’s State convention panels were concerned with How Can an American Girl Strengthen Her Democracy? This June the girls are discussing Our Responsibilities in the World of Tomorrow.

Beginning in January, a State-wide girls’ and boys’ discussion program was set up in which each of the 922 boys’ clubs and 955 girls’ clubs was to spend part of every single club meeting on the topic of the month. That meant that 28,159 boys and girls and 4,377 adult leaders in May talked about Myself, a Citizen of My Club. Other months’ topics are: Our Flag—a Symbol, Significant Places and Personalities in Our History, Health—an Obligation of Citizenship, and so on. For the past 2 years, P. C. Taff, assistant director of extension, has led the 4-H discussion training schools.

The discussions sift into the adult community. They are popular on community programs. Eighteen girls who took part in last June’s convention panels reported that in 6 months they reached 18,000 people in organizations outside their own 4-H Clubs.

Speaking for Better Citizenship

B. H. CROCHERON, Director of Extension, California

■ In August 1940, the California 4-H Clubs launched a campaign to educate the people of the State to a better understanding of the principles and responsibilities of citizenship in a democracy. Under the plan, older 4-H Club members were to go forth to teach their elders the meaning of American democracy. The campaign has developed until it now reaches a considerable volume and has become a State-wide enterprise.

It was supposed that in this national crisis there would be many older 4-H Club members who would desire to make a contribution to the public welfare. Citizenship training seemed a feasible outlet for the patriotic impulse with which club members were imbued. Their older brothers might be active in military defense. The 4-H members could take their part in solidifying the home front. The plan proposed that older 4-H Club members would be offered the opportunity to volunteer for this patriotic activity which was, of course, entirely separate from and in addition to their regular project work.

Teaching materials were the first step in such an enterprise. A series of 12 leaflets were, therefore, written to serve as a guide for those 4-H members who volunteered. The outlines discussed such topics as: What Does Democracy Mean? The History of Democracy; Government in a Democracy; Citizenship—Its Rights, Duties, and Benefits; Citizenship and Voting; Our Federal Government; Our State Government; Our Local Governments; Political Parties; Managing the Business of Government; This Land of Ours; and A Citizen's Calendar.

If the 4-H members were to educate adults, they must be prepared to meet questions and to have a broad concept of the subject. For further study, references and supplementary questions were added to each leaflet. Free copies of the Declaration of Independence and of the Constitution of the United States were not available for distribution, consequently it became necessary to print a supply for use of those preparing for the work.

Local volunteers club leaders are not always skilled in the public presentation and may not be equipped to teach effective methods of public address. Therefore, special leaders were enrolled in each county to train the 4-H volunteers. Extension workers found inspiration in the fact that the most prominent citizens accepted appointment as special leaders. County superior judges, district attorneys, superintendents of schools, prominent clergymen, and others of similar eminence gave of their time to become special 4-H leaders to train these youthful speakers in the meaning and duties of American citizenship. There are now in California 190 special volunteer leaders active in this particular phase of 4-H

Club work. These leaders train club members to speak clearly and to know whereof they speak.

The next step in each county was to present the matter to the older club members and to enroll volunteers. In California, those club members who are 15 years of age or older and who have completed 4 or more years of club work are known as "senior" members. There are 1,402 of them in the State. It was to these "seniors" that the matter was presented and 605 of them volunteered to go out to preach the gospel of better citizenship. No prizes or awards of any kind were offered. The matter was designed entirely as a patriotic public service.

From the list of 12 topics, each club member selected one or more subjects upon which he proposed to become proficient. It was not expected or desired that they would commit the material to memory or recite it parrot-fashion before an audience, but rather that they would use the material as a text and, with such other references as were available, prepare to address an audience in their own words on the general topic selected.

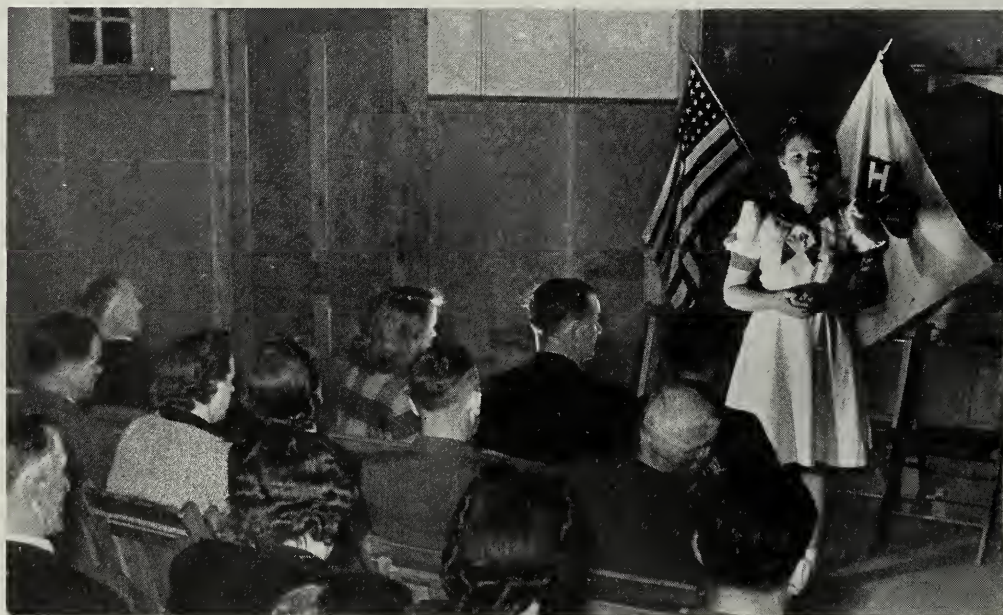
In order that club members might gain experience, they first gave their presentations before their own 4-H Club. Later they traveled about the county giving the same address before other clubs. Thus, each 4-H Club had a series of 4-H speakers come before it, presenting different topics in the series; and each volunteer had an opportunity to practice before several junior audiences.

From those members who had made these presentations, the volunteer leaders chose the most successful and proficient to give their

presentations before adult audiences. Usually the club members are dressed in uniform and are backed by a setting of national and 4-H Club flags. The club members have appeared before many types of rural audiences, such as granges, farm bureaus, cooperatives, parent-teacher associations, and others. Only one topic is presented on such an occasion, but if the audience or the organization desires, other club members follow at subsequent meetings to make other talks from the series. Usually, the audience responds, and the club members follow one another in subsequent months. The difficulty experienced is that the demand grows so widely that busy club members with their high-school studies, their club projects, and their home chores, find it difficult to respond to all the invitations pressed upon them.

After presentations before various types of rural groups, the campaign moves into nearby towns. Noon service clubs, chambers of commerce, labor groups, church organizations, and others are a fertile field for the 4-H presentations. Usually the audience as well as the speakers realize the patriotic importance of these occasions. The singing of patriotic songs, the reading of portions of the Declaration of Independence, the delivery of the club pledge and the pledge to the flag, all become a part of the meeting. This final stage in the plan is only now under way, but up to April 20, 4-H Club members have given 1,215 citizenship presentations, of which 632 were before adult meetings and 583 at 4-H Club meetings.

It is still early in the undertaking and too soon to predict how far it may grow, for the end of the effort is not yet in sight. There is no lessening of demand for the talks on citizenship as delivered by 4-H Club members of California. The club members have found a direct part to play in the effective defense of America and of its institutions.



Family Life Is the Source of Good Citizenship

**MRS. D. E. ELLIOTT, Farm Woman of Gallia County, Ohio, and
Chairman, Southeast District Home Council**

■ We all know that agriculture, on the whole, is not profiting from this war, and we must plan carefully if we maintain the family health and still have money left for educational and social activities. It is important to the Nation that we do this, for, according to one expert, at least two-thirds of our total population 100 years hence will be the descendants of those now living on farms. Thus, it would certainly seem worth while to help these rural folk with their problems of wholesome development, family relationships, and in their training of our youth for citizenship in a democracy.

An important factor is the influence of social conditions and the need for social adjustments in our country today. Times are changing. We are all aware that there is less opportunity for living, working, and playing together as a family unit now than in former generations, due to social engagements in the higher-income families and to the fact that both parents of the lower-income families frequently work away from home. Hence, there is no chance for a quiet family get-together, although there is a growing feeling that no matter how many specialists and other agencies are called into play, the family still remains a continuous source of wholesome interpretation and guidance and furnishes security through understanding as well as affection.

Statistics show that since 1870 the population has increased 300 percent, marriage 400 percent, and divorces 2,000 percent. That means about one divorce to every five or six marriages in America; and 36 percent of these divorces are granted during the first 4 years of married life, whereas 66 percent occur during the first 9 years! Do you wonder—why all these broken homes? Because there are fundamental changes taking place in the institutions of the family and of marriage today; and the new foundations are being constructed of material gathered from the fields of science, biology, psychology, and other sources. Men and women have not as yet adjusted themselves to all these changes, and there are bound to be conflicts until they do learn to understand and accommodate themselves to these changes.

What happens to the children from these broken homes? Dr. Gill, of the Mansfield State Reformatory found that 85 percent of the inmates of the institution came from broken homes, either through divorce or by the death of one or both parents. This survey

lasted over a 2-year period with 3,000 inmates. The majority said they were in definite need of money when they committed the crime, and the rest said that they had no work of any kind at the time of their misdeed.

Seemingly, the danger is between the ages of 13 and 18 years, which would indicate a failure of the parents or guardians to understand the child and to guide him into right paths of living. The January 1940 report of the juvenile judges of Ohio showed but four counties with no cases of delinquency, so the problem is a universal one. A very recent report states that boys between the ages of 17 and 20 years are being apprehended in major crimes in greater numbers than any other 4-year group of any age, so these parents do need help. They need knowledge and understanding themselves so that they can lead their children confidently into a changing world to know that they have the ability to carry on as good citizens of tomorrow.

What shall be the goals for American farm women in making their contribution to a strong defense program? First, to achieve a wholesome family relationship for the happy family is, primarily, a well-adjusted group, secure in its emotional relations, whose members are able to adjust themselves quickly to meet new conditions. Second, to provide adequate health care for our children. All that parents do for the children by way of health protection is an immediate and lasting contribution to national affairs. It was a startling fact in 1917 to learn that one-third of our young men who were drafted were physically unfit for military service though many of these defects could have been corrected in their childhood days. Third, to find a place for the unemployed youth of America so that their unused energy may become an important factor in our defense program. With 4 million between the ages of 16 and 25 years out of school and out of work, that is no small undertaking. Fourth, to achieve an understanding of human behavior.

Some of the ways open to us in working toward these goals are: Fostering a spirit of cooperation in sharing responsibilities in our own family; helping other families face and solve difficult problems that have arisen through changing conditions by the employment of social workers, home demonstration agents and others. Let us continually emphasize the importance of good health from early childhood through exercise, diet, and recreation, as well as proper medical attention. We

can all recognize the value of surplus youth in our State and provide opportunities for them so that they will not feel their lives are useless. We can also study the needs of parents and build the subject matter of their reading material available in our libraries upon their actual needs.

Because one rarely talks of defense without mentioning democracy, I want to quote from an article written by George Stoddard: "In a national emergency we can only stress what we have always taught. What was desirable in good homes is no less desirable as a national pattern. We can show that the democratic way of life is superior to any other by believing it and by practicing it. In short, the age-old values in home life, properly conceived and sincerely carried out, are the very essence of democracy. If we ever fight, these are the things we should fight for. If we are strong enough to gain peace, these are the things for whose defense we shall keep armed."

The Ute Park Camp

For 6 or 7 years 4-H Clubs and adult organizations in Colfax County, N. Mex., dreamed of a permanent site where camps could be held. They were surrounded by beautiful scenery which would lend itself to such a permanent camp, so a fund was started, to be used if land could be obtained. In 1939 J. Van Lint of the Baldy gold mine gave the county 4-H Clubs land to be used for a permanent camp, and through the assistance of several groups and organizations the dreams of these young people and their parents are coming true.

Not only did the Colfax folks contribute to the project but those from Harding and Union, their neighboring counties, helped as well. A permanent lodge, 25 feet by 50 feet, was built the first year at a cost of \$300. 4-H Clubs and women's extension clubs donated money earned in various ways; the agricultural and home agents helped with plans and served as advisers, the men even helping with the actual building of the lodge.

In the original building, it was necessary to use one end for a kitchen. As this resulted in a crowded condition, in 1940 a kitchen was added to the building. A new girls' dormitory which will accommodate 64 girls was also part of the 1940 building program and was completed before camp season started. One night in 1940, the commissioners of Colfax County visited the county 4-H Club camp. These men were so much impressed by the evening's activities that they appropriated \$100 to the camp fund and had the roads to the camp site improved. Later in the year, they turned over to the fund the \$100 check that the county received as a first-place award in the county booth content sponsored by the State Fair Association. The commissioners also donated a large cook stove which had been used in the county jail but which had been replaced when the new courthouse was built.

We Serve a Western Fruit County

MARION F. BUNNELL, County Extension Agent, and JOHN C. DODGE, Assistant Agent, Yakima County, Wash.

■ Way out west in the Evergreen State of Washington is the irrigated valley of the Yakima River and its tributaries which are fed by the snows of the Cascade Mountains.

Out of 3,072 counties in the entire United States, Yakima County ranks first in the production of apples and pears, third in cherries, fourth in potatoes, and eighth in all vegetables.

Yakima County is perhaps best known for its yearly shipments of from 10,000 to 11,000 cars of apples and a volume of other fruits such as pears, peaches, apricots, plums, cherries, and grapes equal to nearly half that amount.

The production of its \$13,000,000 fruit crop together with the packing, storing, and marketing of the products constitutes the major business and trade in Yakima County. A large portion of the population of the area is directly or indirectly dependent for its livelihood upon the fruit industry. Of necessity, horticultural work is of major importance in the County Extension Service's activities.

Yakima County's apple industry was started 40 years ago, and a large part of the trees now standing were planted in the 1910-19 period. First plantings made were of many varieties and on soils not especially rich in nitrogen but of good physical qualities and in most instances with good drainage. Yakima's fruit industries flourished. New soils produced bountiful crops; good prices returned high incomes; and many fine homes, packing houses, and storages were erected.

Time has changed this picture. The 30 to 35 years of continuous crop removal from the orchards has depleted the soil fertility with a resultant effect on yields except where sound practices of soil management were followed. Lack of effective sprays and sanitary practices have permitted the codling moth population to build up until as many as eight or nine sprays are required to give the crop necessary protection. Many years' application of sprays in the form of lead arsenate have impregnated the orchard soils with soluble arsenic, often sufficiently to prohibit the starting of leguminous cover crops. It is, undoubtedly, also exerting some deleterious influence on the productivity of the trees themselves. Apple trees that looked so lonely 35 years ago, 20 feet apart, are now rubbing elbows and shading the ground completely. During the past decade, apple prices have not been sufficiently high to enable the growers to follow the thinning, cultural, and fertilizing practices that are necessary in maintaining soil fertility and tree vigor.

Consumer preference and storage and handling qualities have brought about a definite trend in apple varieties. Many trees of the less profitable varieties have been removed;



Hand pollination of apple blossoms as demonstrated by Dr. John C. Snyder, extension horticulturist, right center above.

and new plantings have consisted of solid blocks of Delicious, Winesaps, and Jonathans until now these three varieties make up 85 percent of the total volume of apples produced. This may seem to some of little significance, but to the apple growers involved the results have been anything but pleasant. Why? The pollen of the Winesap blossom is sterile; and the pollen of the Delicious flower, although capable of fertilizing the pistils of some apple varieties, is not capable of fertilizing those of its own. Total lack of pollination means that no apple is formed or that it will be dropped before maturing. Lack of pollination in any of the five parts of the apple pistil results in an apple underdeveloped on one side and, as a consequence, lopsided.

This problem is by no means hopeless, but some ingenuity has been required to overcome it; and although the Extension Service cannot take all of the credit it has played no small part in its solution. Educational work by the Extension Service through office calls, farm visits, demonstrations, tours, and schools has helped to bring about a correction. Some orchardists have gone back to interplanting varieties; some have top-grafted part of their trees; others have grafted in a single branch of a pollenizer in each tree; and still others are using bouquets hung in the trees in small buckets or set between the trees in 50-gallon oil drums.

But, lo and behold, the last thing anyone would have dreamed of, some of the orchardists are running competition with the bees. Armed with a small brush and a vial of carefully collected and cured pollen, orchardists are climbing ladders and daubing pollen, not in all of the flowers but in enough to obtain a good set of fruit evenly distributed over the

tree. Sounds fantastic, doesn't it? But, just the same, it is being done on a larger scale each year.

The possibility of commercial hand pollination originated in 1934 with the American Fruit Co. Demonstration work in Yakima County by the Extension Service in 1937 was done with the assistance of Dr. J. C. Snyder, State extension horticulturist. In 1938 six hand-pollination schools were held and seven hand-pollination result demonstrations set up. Three method demonstrations were held in 1939; these also served as result demonstrations. Publicity was given results through the radio and newspapers. Persons on apple tours held during the summer months visited these demonstrations. In the spring of 1940, four method demonstrations were conducted in hand pollination. Three of them were carried as result demonstrations; and, in addition, two other result demonstrations were established to be visited by orchardists during the summer months.

What is the result of this work? During the 1940 season, 1,100 ounces of apple pollen were used on nearly 400 acres of trees in Yakima County at an average cost of approximately 35 cents per tree. Two to four ounces of pollen costing \$2 per ounce, plus the cost of applying the pollen, are required for each acre of orchard, depending on the size of the trees. Cost and production records kept this season on a young Delicious orchard operated by Charles Faubion in the Naches Heights district revealed that hand pollination increased the yield of apples 3½ boxes per tree at an increased cost of 14½ cents per tree as compared to pollination by the bouquet method.

In addition to demonstrating and publiciz-

ing the value of hand pollination, the Yakima County Extension Service is helping fruit growers to solve their problems in soil fertility, cover crops, thinning, pruning, and insect control. During the 1940 season, 125 agent-days were devoted to the entire horticultural project. A total of 74 meetings, tours, and schools were held. One hundred and ninety-one farm visits were made, and 351 office calls were received. Sixteen result demonstrations were started or were carried over from 1939, and 13 method demonstrations were held.

New crops as well as old must come in for their share of the Extension Service's efforts. The 500 acres of grapevines planted in the last 2 years are indicative of the growth of one of Yakima County's newest industries, the production of grapes for wine, juice, and the basket trade. During the past year a 1-day school, 3 grape-pruning demonstrations, and a grape tour were attended by a total of 269 growers. Insects and disease have not yet become of serious consequence to the grape men. Grape-leaf hopper damage to a few small areas this season indicates that continued growth of the industry and aging of the vines will bring on some of the problems now besetting the apple industry.

Maintenance of soil fertility is difficult in an irrigated area where soil resources are drawn on so heavily. Weeds are difficult to control because of the spread of their seeds by irrigation water. These two problems are of major importance.

Yakima County's Extension Service staff consists of an agent, three assistants in agriculture in addition to the cow tester, an assistant agent in home economics, and two full-time clerks.

Based largely on the report of the Farm and Home Program Building Committee, 5-year projects were started last year in horticulture, entomology, home food supply, agricultural outlook, farm accounts, dairy herd improvement, noxious weed control, livestock management, beef cattle, clothing and textiles, food and nutrition, home furnishings, and home management. Six hundred and ninety-five 4-H Club members were enrolled during the past year on 17 different projects. They participated in four fairs held in the county, as well as in the junior livestock fair at Spokane and the Pacific International at Portland.

More than 200 farmers have been working on their land-use problems and have completed the basic mapping just recently. The land-use committee appointed a special fruit subcommittee to investigate the many fruit problems.

Diversified, irrigated farm enterprises need careful planning and many farmers find the keeping of the extension farm account book helpful as a basis for such planning.

In the Yakima Valley, extension workers must ever be alert to the changing demands and needs of rural people and to the new programs and methods available.

Arkansas Launches Food and Feed Campaign

■ A State-wide intensive food and feed campaign was launched in March by the Arkansas Extension Service to help bring about better farm living and better rural health, with an enrollment goal of 75 percent of the farm families in the State.

"The campaign is directed at past failures to produce sufficient supplies of food and feed to the end that the rural health of Arkansas may measure up to the emergencies of the future," H. E. Thompson, assistant extension director of that State, said in announcing the program.

"Although fullest use of the food production and storage provisions of the supplementary cotton program will be made, the campaign is being conducted in all agricultural communities in Arkansas regardless of whether or not cotton is grown. For cotton-producing families, the supplemental program is being emphasized as a helpful and advantageous device that should be used in attaining food- and feed-production goals in the campaign. This organized effort is aimed at all farm families, and especially at those who, for one reason or another, have not produced previously enough supplies of food and feed to meet their families' requirements," he explained.

A drive to enroll 75 percent of all farm families in the State is now under way. All families enrolled are being supplied a special 12- by 18-inch family food-supply guide and record. By using this guide, the family may determine the amounts of food needed for a period of 1 year. There is also space for recording food production and conservation as it is completed by the family.

The enrollment drive in each county is being carried on by community teams of leaders composed of home demonstration club members, older 4-H Club boys and girls, and other community leaders. Families will be instructed in the use of the supply guide and record at the time of enrollment. Also instruction in its use will be given all members at 4-H Club meetings and vocation agriculture and home economics students in their classes.

The campaign will be a sustained drive throughout the spring and summer. Special information materials have been prepared by the Arkansas Service to assist enrolled families in food production and conservation practices, including a series of leaflets, animated letters, and newspaper releases. Film strips and charts will also be used in community meetings during the period. The Arkansas Extension daily farm and home radio news service will be devoted to regular "plugs" in support of the campaign.

The county campaigns, under the leadership of Arkansas county agents and home demonstration agents, were developed by the live-

at-home subcommittees of county agricultural committees from a suggested outline of procedure supplied by the State office. Called into service by these subcommittees to assist in the county campaigns are the home demonstration club preparedness committees and local leaders in gardening and canning, 4-H Clubs, vocational agriculture and home economics students, mattress-program leaders, community AAA committeemen, local leaders of farm organizations, and local representatives of agricultural agencies.

In the fall, a special drive will be made to get in records of the enrolled farm families. All families who produced and stored at least 75 percent of their food requirements will be given certificates of award. In some counties, special local recognition of these families will be made.

Use of Color Slides

Natural color slides are being tried as a new device for teaching tailoring in Kansas. A series of about 27 slides recently was used by several home demonstration agents in preparing women for special-interest groups in advanced tailoring.

The slide series, entirely in color, was prepared by the clothing specialist and the extension editor. The pictures were made of a child's coat in the process of construction and included tools needed for tailoring. A detailed script was prepared before any pictures were made, and each photograph then was taken especially to illustrate one step in the script. The script was written in full for clear understanding of all processes.

One valuable feature of the series is that most of the pictures are close-ups showing clearly the details of the stitching and other steps.

The purpose of the series is to give the women who are preparing to be members of the tailoring group a clear idea of what to expect during the period of tailoring, thus serving as advance preparation for the specialist's work. The specialist and agents are pleased with the results. Women who have seen the series have a much better idea of what the specialist is discussing as the work progresses. A number of the women became so deeply interested after seeing the slides that they went home and examined tailored garments to see what processes were used in the construction. They came back with the report that they would have a great deal of respect for well-tailored garments in the future. One county has asked that this slide series be lent to them for an achievement day when they will have a costume review of their tailored garments.

Can Farmers Afford Electricity? They Can and Here Is How

OSCAR W. MEIER, Rural Electrification Administration

■ A few years ago the flat statement, "Farmers cannot afford electricity," was used with such telling effect that in some cases the farmers themselves were convinced that it was true. And, largely, under the then-prevailing practice of simply moving heavy urban construction into rural fields, the cost of electric service was too great for most potential users. Conditions have changed considerably since then.

How rural line construction has been simplified and reduced in cost, and how, throughout the country, rates have been brought down to a more reasonable level is an interesting story. The efforts of the Rural Electrification Administration are largely responsible. However, space here must limit the telling of it to some of the results achieved. In its fifth year of operation, REA-financed systems are serving approximately 700,000 new users of electricity in 45 States. A great majority of these are farm families who had despaired of ever getting service.

The REA staff believes that if electric power can make a prosperous farm yield greater profits, it can help the hand-to-mouth farmer get his hand to his mouth more quickly and easily. Hence its objective is "area coverage"—service to every farmer in a system territory, rather than just the more prosperous few. To do this, in accord with sound business practice, has led to the development of many new methods of providing service and of financing wiring, plumbing, and electrical aids adapted to local conditions.

One of the earliest developments along these lines was the inauguration of the "self-help" type of system. A good example is one in Minnesota where the electric cooperative members cut and prepared their own local white cedar poles at a reduction in construction cost of about \$100 per mile. They cleared their own right-of-way of undergrowth and trees, dug post holes, placed log anchors, and performed other group labor by which they earned individual credits. These credits were used later to pay for the wiring of their premises, and for the purchase of electrical appliances. All wiring was done under a cooperative group-wiring program which saved at least \$20 per farm over the usual individual house-wiring installations. Members also saved from 20 to 30 percent of established list prices on all their appliances through the group-purchase plan. On one appliance order amounting to \$47,000, members saved themselves the substantial sum of \$12,600. There are many such "self-help" projects among the 800-odd REA-financed systems.

Electric power makes running water possible on the farm, and running water improves sanitary conditions. It also eliminates long hours of hard work spent in pumping and carrying. Of 3 million farm homes in 14 States surveyed in 1930, only 5.7 percent had water piped into the house, and 3.4 percent had water piped into the bathroom. The REA is helping to improve this condition, not only by making electricity available, but through a program to provide plumbing systems at lower costs than ever before.

Through a group-purchase plan, complete individual plumbing units, consisting of bathroom essentials, kitchen sink and water pump can be bought for approximately \$100. This cost may be financed on a 1- to 5-year basis. With the help of the Federal Extension Service, Rural Electrification specialists, agricultural engineers, county agents and home demonstration agents, and county health authorities, the REA holds plumbing schools at which the farmer can learn how to make his own plumbing installation at a considerable saving on the labor involved.

Simple Credit Schemes Help

In the so-called low-income brackets there are large groups of farm families who, although they cannot afford elaborate electric service, long for lights and a radio if nothing more. Often the REA-cooperative lines are temptingly near. What is being done about these people? Through simple financing plans, adapted to their financial limitations, their desires are being gratified wherever possible. The results in renewed pride in home and property improvement, as well as in a stimulated mental outlook, are often immediately apparent among these new users of electric service.

The extremely low cost for wiring is made possible through group buying. For example, under one of these financing plans a one-room house can be wired completely including two outlets and inspection for \$7, a two-room house can be wired completely including 4 outlets and inspection for \$10, and a three-room house can be wired completely including six outlets and inspection for \$13. Time payments of no less than \$1 down, after which payments of not less than 50 cents per month will be added to the electric bill. Cooperative members accepting service under this, and similar plans, may pay their membership fee at 20 cents down and 10 cents per month.

While electrification on such a simple scale cannot be expected to create much financial

profit for the individual family, there are examples where service has been made to pay its way. For instance, the Arkansas Extension Service, in a demonstration program, cooperated with several REA cooperatives in showing members how one-half horsepower feed grinders could save them money on grinding feed for stock. The result was that more than two dozen small grinders were put to work in the demonstration area at once, and several large grinders were bought on a cooperative basis. An interesting sidelight is that a number of the small motors were used to grind grain for human consumption as well.

In the same State, home demonstration agents showed farm women how to make electricity pay its own way by conserving foods for home use and for sale with electric refrigeration. In 1940, about 3,800 farm families added electric refrigerators to their domestic equipment in the State of Arkansas. Such cooperation on the part of a State Extension Service with REA electric cooperatives is typical of that being experienced throughout the country.

Thus we are coming to the end of the era in which American farmers could not afford electricity. We are entering the time when farmers, using electricity to achieve not only a better way of life, but of earning a better living, can no longer afford to be without it.

AAA Colored Movie Popular

A total of 2,145 people attended the first 16 meetings at which County Agent George B. Whitman of Adams County, Ill., showed the hour-long, 8-millimeter colored moving picture on the AAA program, which was recently made under his direction.

The movie was photographed by M. H. Voss, manager of the local service company, and was written by Agent Whitman, Home Demonstration Agent Margaret Walbridge, and Fred Schnellbecher, who constitute the county AAA educational committee. The title of the film is *The Story of the AAA Program in Adams County*.

More than 125 local people and 25 farms are shown in the movie to indicate the benefits that farm and city people have received from increased income since AAA programs went into effect in 1933.

■ When Bell County, Ky., homemakers served the farmers' banquet, they put up a placard reading: "The foods served here tonight—how many can you grow at home?"

Trading Hardships for Happier Living

■ Calamity Janes do not get much sympathy around Pleasantville, N. J. There are too many people in that town ready to remind them of the 30 farm women who are trading hardships for happier living at the Atlantic Farm Woman's Cooperative Market, 2 miles west on the Black Horse pike.

This time last year the market was a topic of conversation and speculation. This spring it is an established Atlantic County business embarking upon a second year of service to residents and visitors of that vicinity who like good food.

And there are plenty of people who will jump at the chance to buy good home-made food. The 30 women who operate the market knew that before they started last June. Because they knew it, and because they were willing to put the time and hard work into supplying it, gradually a new gas or electric stove, perhaps a water heater, or an electric roaster, is arriving in their homes. New clothes, kitchen equipment, and receipts for paid bills are also appearing in their homes this spring.

One woman, a widow, is helping to send her daughter through college on her market earnings. Another has installed running water in her home. But that is getting ahead of our story—this story which Atlantic Farm Woman's Cooperative Market friends take particular delight in telling Calamity Janes.

It all started late in the winter of 1940. For a number of years, many Atlantic County farm women had watched their family incomes dwindle because of decreasing prices for their farm products and increasing production costs. Incomes had dwindled to the point where they no longer covered the cost of necessities of everyday living. As one means of augmenting farm income, the Atlantic County Land Use Planning Committee decided that it would be desirable to establish a cooperative farm woman's market. The home extension group and farm women had been talking about this project for more than 2 years but were unable to go ahead with the establishment of the market because of lack of information, lack of capital, lack of business experience on the part of the women, and lack of confidence. Some of these obstacles were removed through the formation of the county land-use planning committee which included both farm men and farm women in its membership.

Next came the organization of the association, the first of its kind in New Jersey, and the construction of the market place. Each woman bought two shares of stock in the market association at \$25 a share. With this as working capital, a tract of land was purchased and an 80- by 24-foot building erected. To help cut costs, the women and their husbands (this is a project which re-



Home Demonstration Agent Mrs. Edith G. Norman, chats with a customer leaving New Jersey's first woman's cooperative market.

ceives family cooperation) cleared the land and did much of the work themselves.

Women who did not have cash for membership borrowed it from the Farm Security Administration. That is another feature of the farm woman's market—it represents a perfect example of coordinated help among Federal, State, and local agencies. John E. Brockett, Atlantic County agricultural agent, Mrs. Norman, and Mrs. Phillis have worked with the women constantly. Members of the New Jersey Extension Service, the State department of agriculture, the State board of health, and the Farm Security Administration are among the others who gave help and encouragement.

Backed by Land Use Committee

The county land use planning committee has set up a subcommittee on the farm woman's market. Plans have been made to have occasional meetings with representatives of Federal, State, and local agencies in the county to discuss plans for improving the market and to insure continued coordination.

Pies, breads, canned goods, fresh vegetables, eggs, poultry, cheese, cakes, candy, baked beans, salads, and other home-made foods made the white-and-green building on the Black Horse pike a haven for resident and seashore-visiting shoppers on the 2 weekly market days throughout the summer and into the winter. When the doors were finally

closed for the winter, the cash box showed a gross return of more than \$7,500 for the season.

And what do the women think about the market as they begin the second year? Here's what one member has to say:

"The Atlantic Farm Woman's Cooperative Market has given me a wonderful opportunity to learn the real value of cooperation. Without it, we could accomplish nothing. We have made many new acquaintances and friends as well as customers for our many products.

"Since our market opened last June, I have purchased an electric washing machine, clock, and toaster; and I am looking forward to the opening season with much pleasure."

Although a total gross return of \$7,500 did not make anybody rich, another member plans to help build a house with her market earnings. And when it is built she will have an electric roaster and an electric mixer to go into the new kitchen. She and her family now live in a cottage built of evergreen logs by her parents when they settled on the land.

Although the chance to supplement inadequate farm incomes is the market's reason for being, its members place almost equal importance on its social opportunities. A mother of nine children who is now saving to buy an electric dishwasher says:

"We meet people in the market that we never would have an opportunity to meet otherwise. One customer is a dealer in rare stamps and travels all over the world. Another is an ambassador. Customers at our market don't just buy and rush home as in most markets. They stay awhile and chat.

"Going to the market every Saturday breaks the monotony of housekeeping and gives us market association members a feeling that we own something."

Another member, one who specializes in flowers and decorative gourds, relates: "We have customers from the Canadian border to the deep South and from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Many people stop to chat about the flowers and to tell me about those native to their locality. Some have sent me pictures of their flowers."

Better rural living—whether that means money to buy necessities, enjoying a few luxuries and conveniences, or just getting more fun out of life—members of the Atlantic Farm Woman's Cooperative Market have it now. And they are having a good time working for it together. One member explains that she went to the hospital for an operation recently just so she would be in perfect condition for work in the market this summer!

That is typical of the enthusiasm in the Atlantic Farm Woman's Cooperative Market. That is why chronic tellers of woeful tales can seek their audiences elsewhere!

A More Secure Farm Life

A. R. BLANCHARD, County Agricultural Agent, Tioga County, N. Y.

■ These are uncertain times in which we live. This Nation, in fact all of western civilization, is passing through one of the most critical periods in its history. Events have happened in Europe during the last year which are bound to affect the lives of all of us; and as I have talked with farmers in Tioga County I have gathered the impression that there is one thing which they desire more than anything else, and that is a little security.

Agriculture in Tioga County followed the trend toward specialization. If one compares the agricultural censuses of 1860 and 1940, he will see how great this change has been. We have fewer sheep, swine, and horses, and we grow less grain and potatoes than we did 80 years ago. Throughout this period the number of cows has remained fairly stable. However, we now produce fluid milk for New York City where formerly we produced butter and cheese. The number of hens has, of course, increased considerably. Today Tioga County is dependent to a considerable extent upon the price of milk and eggs for its prosperity.

Is Specialization Permanent?

In analyzing the agricultural situation today in Tioga County, it should be kept in mind that the type of agriculture which we are following is one that was developed during a relatively prosperous period that this country enjoyed from the close of the Civil War to 1930. We are apt to look upon it as permanent and the one best adapted to this region. It is a type of commercial agriculture in which farmers have specialized in the production of milk and eggs and in which they buy most of the things they consume.

We must always keep in mind the forces at work in the Nation during the period from 1865 to 1930 when our present highly commercialized agriculture was formed. There were at least four of them, namely, an expanding frontier in the West, a population that was increasing at a rapid rate, an export market for our surplus agricultural products, and cities that were growing rapidly. The important thing for us to realize now is that many of these forces which molded our agriculture up to 1930 are no longer at work. The frontier is gone. Our population is increasing at a much slower rate and may begin to decline in another 20 or 30 years; our export market for surplus agricultural products will never be as good as it was following the Civil War; and our cities are not growing at a very rapid rate. In fact, there is a trend toward decentralization, and the census taken this year shows that some cities have already started to decline.

When I say that these forces are no longer at work and that a change should be made, I can hear some people say that there is no actual surplus of agricultural products. These people say that if everyone had an adequate diet and could buy all of the milk and eggs he needs, there would be no surplus. And, I might add that they are correct.

Now I absolutely agree that we should do everything we possibly can to increase the purchasing power of the lower third of our population so that they can buy all of the good food that they need to maintain sound bodies. Whenever this question has been discussed at meetings of farmers during the last 10 years, everyone has agreed on this point. And so the farmer has gone home and continued the same type of commercial, mass-production farming which has been followed for the last 50 years. Personally, I think that the time has come when we should face facts as they are. Until we have solved the problem of spreading purchasing power to more families, let us face the fact that it has not been done yet and make our plans accordingly.

Realizing these facts, one naturally wonders what changes, if any, should be made in our agriculture. I wish I knew the complete answer. But one thing is certain, a farmer who specializes in the production of just one product such as milk or eggs with the hope that the good old days will return is just fooling himself. If the country has a few years of prosperity now because of the defense program, he may make more money than the diversified farmer; but when the defense program is all over and the period of readjustment comes, he will almost certainly go under.

As I have studied the agriculture of Tioga County during the last 15 years, I have become convinced that a more diversified agriculture will be the safest during the uncertain years ahead of us.

In arguing for a more diversified agriculture, I do not have in mind an extreme type of self-sufficient agriculture such as we followed 100 years ago. We could not return to it if we would. We have roads to maintain, central schools to support, automobiles to buy, telephones and electricity to pay for. These things in themselves mean that we must produce things for sale, and for that reason we shall continue to produce milk and eggs for New York City. However, I do not think that we should depend entirely upon them for our livelihood. Our safest course lies in following a middle path between the extremes of a specialized, commercial agriculture on the one hand and a self-sufficient agriculture on the other.

Now the question naturally arises, what

changes should we make. No definite answer can be given, of course, because much depends upon conditions on each individual farm. However, the first step in charting a course of action is to analyze correctly the situation. If we realize that the forces that molded our mass-production agriculture during the last 80 years no longer operate, we have at least made a start.

There are a number of things which farmers in this part of the State can do if they wish to follow a more secure way of life. In general, I think that the farmer should plan his farm business on this basis: Produce as much food as possible on the farm for home consumption, and do everything possible to lower the cash cost of producing milk and eggs. Such a program means several things.

First, every farm should have a vegetable garden and berry patch. Beef, pork, and poultry meat should be produced also. Incidentally, this is a part of the "Better Living on the Farm" program which the Colleges of Agriculture and Home Economics are urging farm people of New York to adopt this next year.

Second, I think that farmers can lower the cash cost of producing milk or eggs by raising more home-grown grains on the farm. Back in the 1920's there was little to be gained by doing this. In uncertain times like the present, however, I think it is the safer thing to do, because then you have more control over the cash cost of producing milk or eggs.

Third, develop the farm woodlot as a source of income. We are demonstrating what can be done with farm wood lots in Tioga County through the Tioga Woodland Owners' Cooperative Association. During the past few months we have been marketing poplar for farmers. Up to the present time this has been considered a weed tree of little value. We have now demonstrated that the farmer can earn good wages for cutting and peeling it, and at the same time he is improving his woodlot.

Help From the Wood Lot

There is another product which the wood lot can produce for the farmer—shingles. Probably for a long time only few farmers have thought about producing shingles. There are two or three shingle mills in Tioga County now. Farmers cut up their pine or hemlock logs into bolts about 16 inches long and have them sawed into shingles at a cost of about \$1.25 per square, whereas cedar shingles would cost \$4 or \$5. It is true, of course, that pine or hemlock shingles will not last as long as cedar. However, they will last at least 25 years, and 25 years is a long time when we consider how fast things are happening in Europe.

Now I appreciate the fact that farmers would prefer to concentrate just on the production of milk or eggs and buy their shingles at the local store. However, if a farmer waits for the price of milk to get high enough

so that he can pay the feed bill and all the other farm expenses and still have enough money left to buy shingles for his barn, he may wait a long time. In fact, many farmers have been waiting for 10 years, and meanwhile the barn roof is not getting any better.

I merely mention the production of shingles to illustrate how the farmer can be a little more self-sufficient. I believe that there are a number of other possibilities just like this which we have not thought of for 50 years because our agriculture has become so commercialized.

In conclusion, there are one or two things that I should like to mention. We hear much today about preserving democracy in America. Now if democracy is to be preserved, I think you will agree that its greatest stronghold

will be in the small rural communities and on the farms of America. If this is true, I ask you to consider how we can best keep it. Will it be on the commercial, mass-production farms that call for help from the Government when the price of farm products is low, or will it be on the farm that is more self-sufficient? I think you will agree that it will be on the more self-sufficient farm.

Which type of farmer feels the more secure? Do you think it is the specialized farmer whose entire living depends upon the price of milk or eggs? Personally, I think it is the farmer whose cellar is filled with canned fruits and vegetables, whose bins are full of home-grown grains, and whose farm business is so organized that he produces many of the things which he consumes.

To Stimulate Discussion

NORA M. HOTT, State Home Demonstration Leader, South Dakota

■ Emily Parker, home extension agent in Turner and Hutchinson Counties, S. Dak., has used some rather unique methods for stimulating discussion among home extension members.

In conducting the discussion on Harmonizing Personal and Family Wants the agent used a "wishing well" effectively. She arranged the wishing wells—three small wells of paper were labeled "now," "soon," and "future." Project leaders wrote "wants" or "wishes" on three slips of paper and dropped them into their respective well. The agent then conducted a discussion, using the wishes as a basis. In almost every center a member wished for rain or good crops. This brought forth a discussion of the ways in which we might conserve the moisture we have, the various agricultural programs and projects now working toward this end. In each case, time was allowed to discuss the question fully enough to satisfy the "wisher."

Many "wishes" brought forth discussion on improving family philosophy and home living. Valuable suggestions were given by leaders where the "want" was for more closet or storage space. The wish for a new cook stove brought a very good suggestion from one project leader.

She said: "I, too, wanted a new cook stove, and now I have it. Perhaps the other members of the family do not fully realize how important it is or how much we need it, just as we women sometimes cannot see why the men folk need a new piece of farm machinery. So, one day I cleaned out the old range and showed the boys and Dad that the grates would hardly turn. I didn't want new grates! Then I was gone for a few days, and the boys did the cooking. I got a new stove!"

What really happened was that, through family council, the boys and Dad agreed that

a new stove was essential. This same leader wished for a bathroom or at least a private washroom. In a small house with four growing boys and mother and father, it was becoming a real problem for the family to have privacy. The mother reported to Mrs. Parker; they pooled their thinking and now have partitioned off one end of a long porch across the back of the house, with a door opening into the dining room. To be sure, they have not running water as yet; but they do have privacy and a washroom separate from the kitchen.

The agent has noted that two other homes have running water since this discussion took place. Both women admitted that they had never investigated the cost of running water, and when they had the cooperation of other members of their family they found it cost but a small sum. The secretary of the Hawthorne Club says that practically every member has reported that her want has been met, proving that the project leaders have encouraged club members to hold family councils. Included in the list were: Mechanical refrigerator, two new stoves, more storage space, new dishes, a new car, and a trip to Montana; and one lady anticipated a playmate for her small son.

The wishing wells took the group into varied and interesting places and created much good will and, incidentally, "broke the ice" for the discussion to follow.

Discussion was stimulated on the topic, Providing More Pleasures, by assigning 2-minute talks to members prior to the meeting.

The discussion on Keeping up to Date was opened by "Did You Know?" facts. The agent had previously prepared these questions which were asked individuals in much the same way that radio programs are conducted. Each leader then wrote a question, the answer to which she wanted, and dropped it into the

"ask it basket." Questions ranged from re-conditioning linoleum, color schemes, cleaning wall paper, stain removal, oil versus coal for fuel, landscape gardening, slip covers, and re-finishing furniture to methods of interesting members in discussions.

As an aid in conducting discussion on the topic, Strengthening Securities, each leader was asked to write three things considered essential to security and three things classed as threats to security. The discussion brought out various types of security, namely, physical, mental, spiritual, social, and economic. Fear, loss of health, lack of cooperation, unemployment, indifference to the spiritual were listed many times, as well as crop failures and drought. Many were listed as threats to all kinds of security. Time was allowed to analyze each threat through discussion.

The following were listed by leaders as threats to security: Fear of not being able to make payments; sickness; lack of health; unemployment; fear of illness, of loss of work, of home, loss of confidence; family misunderstandings; moving into a new neighborhood; crop failures—grasshoppers; war and world conditions; low prices for things produced; despondency; lack of cooperation in the home; lack of will power to go ahead; high taxes; lack of recreation for young people; liquor; loss of bread winner; poor management and use of time; indifference to the spiritual; living beyond one's means; lack of forethought to conserve soil; selfishness; indifference to church and religion; social unrest; and disloyalties.

The things which leaders considered essential to their family security were enlightening.

Health was listed most frequently, followed by cooperation and forbearance, food, clothing, and shelter, family harmony and understanding, love, education of children, happy home life, spiritual fellowship, appreciation of the beautiful, making use of what we have, thrift, hospitality, peace, fellowship, family stability, community permanence, national permanence, and satisfactory social position.

Mary A. Covert, home management specialist, South Dakota State College, assisted Mrs. Parker at the discussion meeting on strengthening securities.

Rural Drama

An increasing number of rural women in Colorado are taking part in locally produced plays, skits, and similar forms of entertainment, according to Mary Sutherland, Colorado parent education and child development specialist. In many places rural women have prepared short plays, skits, or pantomimes which have shown considerable originality and which lend variety to community gatherings, she says. The college dramatic coach lends plays for reading and provides lists of suitable plays which may be purchased from the publishers. With the aid of college students, she also gives make-up demonstrations in some localities near the college.

No Frontiers for Agricultural Problems

EXTENSION GOOD-WILL AMBASSADORS FIND MEXICAN LEADERS EAGER TO COOPERATE

■ Laying the foundation for mutual cooperation and discussion of agricultural problems, a good-will delegation of extension workers met with Mexican agricultural leaders and teachers early in April at Saltillo, Coahuila, to compare notes on educational methods and research and to bring to the Mexicans greetings from President Roosevelt, Secretary Wickard, and agricultural workers in this country.

More than 700 Mexicans attended the dinner in honor of the visitors from the United States, and more attended the meeting at which Reuben Brigham, Federal assistant director of extension work, spoke for the United States delegation.

"We found our Mexican coworkers anxious to cooperate with us in the exchange of visits by personnel and of results of research studies," reports Mr. Brigham. "The Mexicans are making strenuous efforts to help their local farmers use the assets of modern agriculture under the primitive conditions with which they must work. The Government is sponsoring a broad education program with much the same goal as ours, Better Homes on Better Farms. In Mexico, as in this country, leaders are thinking in terms of better nutrition; and there is excellent opportunity for cooperation in this field. I was impressed with the attitude of the people, with their desire for knowledge, and their desire to cooperate with us in extension work, teaching, and research," continued Mr. Brigham.

Exchange Is Mutually Helpful

"The Mexicans seemed to be particularly interested in data on water conservation. As I had just come from attending a conference of western directors and had seen some of the excellent research work under way in our Western States, I could not help thinking how admirable it would be if some plan of cooperation between the countries could be worked out. They also have much to give to us through a closer cooperation."

The idea of closer cooperation between the agricultural workers in the two countries was developed by Director M. L. Wilson who had hoped to be there personally. It is believed that this first meeting will serve as a forerunner of other conferences in which citizens from the two neighboring countries can get together and discuss their problems and methods of meeting them.

In addition to Mr. Brigham and Charles Sheffield of the Federal Service, the following directors were members of the party: J. O. Knapp, West Virginia; P. O. Davis, Alabama;



Assistant Director Reuben Brigham, representing the Extension Service Good Will Ambassadors, addresses a group of more than 900 Mexican agricultural leaders and teachers at Saltillo, Mexico.

A. B. Fite, New Mexico; Charles U. Pickrell, Arizona; I. O. Schaub, North Carolina; D. W. Watkins, South Carolina; W. S. Brown, Georgia; E. H. White, Mississippi; E. E. Scholl, Oklahoma; and H. H. Williamson, Texas; also from Texas, Mildred F. Horton, vice-director; George E. Adams, assistant director, Mrs. Maggie W. Barry, and Mrs. E. W. Hooker.

The Mexicans manifested a great deal of interest in our Extension Service. In his talk Mr. Brigham explained about the county agents and the cooperation of the Federal Department of Agriculture with the State agricultural colleges. He described some of the problems of rural people in this country and how extension agents are trying to meet these problems. The visitors from the United States had the opportunity of seeing some of the teaching at the agricultural college and the research work under way there. They talked to the teachers and research workers about the problems of the Mexican farmer and the plans for helping him. They also answered questions about the Extension Service and how it worked.

The meeting was held at the Coahuila Agricultural College with Prof. Maurilio P. Nanéz presiding in place of the Governor who had planned to be present.

The delegation was accompanied by the Consul General of the United States to Mexico, D. S. McDonough, and H. D. Lockett, assistant to Ambassador Josephus Daniels.

When the party left Mexico, they carried with them a better understanding of the country and the problems of the agricultural people and a feeling of fellowship with those who were working to better the conditions in rural areas there. They agreed with the Monterey paper *El Porvenir* when it reported that the welcome was enthusiastic and cordial, manifesting with it the perfect understanding which actually exists between the governments of Mexico and the United States.

■ Ohio county agricultural agents and teachers of vocational agriculture are engaged in many joint activities. A study of interrelationships was made by T. J. Horne, a graduate student under the supervision of a committee representing the two lines of work. Conflict in activities and meeting dates was the most frequently reported difficulty. To overcome this and promote mutually helpful activities, the study suggests more cooperative planning, such as that done in joint monthly meetings held in some Ohio counties.

■ Arizona extension workers held nutrition meetings in the migratory camps in Maricopa and Pinal Counties. The subject-matter recommendations were simple and understandable, and the mimeographed material seldom exceeded two pages in length. Nutrition Specialist Jean M. Stewart planned the work with the home agents in the two counties.

Launching a Mattress Program

How to reach all the low-income people who should have mattresses is just one of the problems facing home demonstration agents. Three West Virginia agents relate their experiences in getting a mattress program under way.

Farm Women in at the Start

■ The entire mattress program in Hampshire County has been built around the theory that women would more readily assume leadership if they are counseled with and have a part in the developing of the entire program rather than being told what, when, and how to do.

Eight farm women's clubs, representing eight communities, sponsored the program. Each club appointed a community chairman responsible for receiving applications, making plans for a center, and arranging work schedules. The women all assumed responsibility for personally contacting families eligible for the mattresses. The applications were turned over to the county chairman who passed them on to the county home demonstration agent for initialing before turning them over to the agricultural conservation committee for approval or disapproval and sent a list of the approved families to each community chairman. Records of the families applying for cotton and also the list of those approved are kept in the county home demonstration agent's office.

In beginning actual construction work, a county training school was held for all community chairmen. These women helped the agent to decide on methods for making mattresses, schedule for centers, and policies for the entire program.

Community cotton mattress work centers were then set up. I held a demonstration school in each center so that all farm women's club members could learn how to make a mattress. The community mattress chairman then assumed full responsibility. The members who had been trained took turns in helping with the supervision. The mattress chairman spent an hour or two each day at the work center.

The farm women's club members considered this an opportunity to demonstrate to non-club members something of the training and benefits that members have received from the farm women's program and an opportunity to reach more people, especially those of the lower-income level. Every cotton mattress committee member was given an opportunity to serve in some way—by giving supervision at the cotton mattress work center, contacting eligible families, or caring for equipment. One result is a new interest in comfortable

beds, bedding, and bedroom improvement among all women in the county.—*Nina Spiggle, home demonstration agent, Hampshire County.*

She Finds That Men Want To Help

The amazing thing to me about the cotton-mattress program has been the cooperation of the men. Many men have sent word through members of the county Triple-A committee, relatives, or friends, or have come in person or written to the county home demonstration agent, requesting a cotton-mattress work center in their communities. They have given the names of people who would serve on the community cotton-mattress committee and information as to where a work center would be located. In several communities men have ridden horseback and taken applications for mattresses.

One woman has acted as chairman for six communities, appointing a committee for each work center. She has supervised the work of mattress making and distribution of cotton and ticking and has received all applications and signed all receipts.

More than 200 mattresses have been made in these communities which are located in a remote section of the county on dirt roads that are impassable with a car during the winter months. We expect to complete a total of 1,200 or more mattresses in the cotton-mattress program.

Thirty-one work centers have been set up by the community cotton-mattress committees. They are located in school buildings, churches, a lodge hall, empty houses, and storerooms, as well as in the 4-H camp buildings. Thirty-one men and fifty women serve on community cotton-mattress committees. News of the program goes by word of mouth from community to community, and the applications come in.—*Hazel C. Usner, home demonstration agent, Putnam County.*

She Uses Established Groups

In Pleasants County, most of the publicity for the cotton-mattress program was given by the county agricultural agent at land use planning meetings and by means of two articles in local newspapers. I talked of it at the farm women's club meetings which I attended.

In Tyler County, the county agricultural

agent also spoke of the cotton-mattress program at land use planning meetings. There has been a little newspaper publicity but not a great deal. Of course it has been discussed one or more times at meetings of all farm women's clubs. The program was explained at a meeting of the one-room teachers of the county at the suggestion of the county superintendent of schools who is very cooperative. Several teachers have helped a number of people in their communities to get and fill out blanks. I attended four parent-teacher association meetings and talked on the cotton-mattress program. Two women who work in stores in small communities were approached, and each took a supply of blanks to give to those of their customers whom they thought eligible and interested.

Probably the greatest number of people were reached when a short mimeographed statement explaining the cotton-mattress program was sent to the AAA mailing list. Many requests for blanks have come in as a result of this. This sheet was also given to one-room teachers, farm security supervisors, and case workers for WPA together with some application blanks; and all have been glad to see that the people with whom they work take advantage of the opportunity the cotton-mattress program offers. More than 500 mattresses were applied for by April 1, with more blanks coming in daily.—*Jessie F. Lemley, home demonstration agent, Pleasants and Tyler Counties.*

Emphasize Nutrition

In 40 New York counties and in 3 of New York's largest up-State cities, home demonstration agents and local leaders are emphasizing nutrition in relation to the selection and preparation of food.

These leaders are homemakers who have had from 1 to 16 years of experience with foods and food values in home demonstration work, having applied in their own homes the latest facts about food, its selection and preparation. The potential contribution of these trained local leaders for national defense on the "food front" is impressive.

■ A total of 138 studies, 112 completed and 26 in progress, are reviewed in Extension Service Circular 339, 4-H and Older Youth Studies—Some Findings, Bibliography, and Studies in Progress. The circular was prepared by Barnard Joy and Lucinda Crile of the Division of Field Studies and Training.

The major sections are devoted to studies of: Evaluation of educational outcomes of 4-H Club work; Problems in 4-H program development; Present occupations and activities of former 4-H members; Problems relating to length of 4-H membership; Local 4-H Club leadership; 4-H contests, awards, and rewards; Methods used in conducting 4-H work; Problems of 4-H administration and organization; Problems of older youth; Analysis of data from extension reports.

Young Folks Find Their Niche Making Good With Livestock

■ A group of young folks in Gunnison County, Colo., are in the purebred livestock business in a big way.

In 1938, they organized the Gunnison County 4-H Purebred Hereford Club, and in 1940 the 27 members owned 150 head of purebred cattle valued at \$39,000. Last year they sold 12 registered bulls for a total of \$3,765, one bringing \$1,000.

The club first met and organized on April 23, 1938, with Tom B. Field, a local stockman, as leader. Charles W. McIlvaine, Jr., Gunnison County extension agent, suggested that the club produce purebred bulls for sale to local stockmen and, in that way, provide a means of contributing to the welfare of the entire area, as Gunnison County is a range-livestock country.

Club members—17 of them at first—purchased 26 head of registered Hereford heifers and a herd bull. The Montrose Production Credit Association was the financing agency and has continued to supply credit when needed. At the present time, club members have borrowed \$10,109 and have \$5,878 yet to repay.

Bad luck hit the club hard last year when its 3-year-old herd bull died. However, insurance of \$500 helped out, and another bull was leased. This year, a half interest was purchased in the new herd sire—Brae Lad 24th—a half brother to a bull that sold in Denver recently for \$8,000.

The club secretary has kept a complete record of all meetings and business matters and a scrapbook which includes many clippings of club news write-ups. Club activities include regular business meetings and definite training in livestock-production methods. Judging of beef cattle and other stock also is learned by the members. Because the boys and girls are from ranch homes, they have a special interest in their own livestock business.

Officers of the club during 1940 were Ernest Vouga, president; Bill Sanderson, vice president; Rita Vader, secretary-treasurer; and Arnold Leonard, reporter. The club has its "official stationery" with a picture of the herd sire and a list of all club members. Advertisements of bulls to be sold are placed with leading livestock journals and paid for by the club. At community and county fairs, club members show their stock and compete for prizes, but blue ribbons are not so important to them as good management methods and the real range-livestock business they have developed.

Proof that the girls as well as the boys are "good livestock men" is shown by a statement made by Rita Vader, who has been secretary of the club since it started. She says:

"The benefits I have derived from my 4

years of club work are manifold. They have educated me by means of livestock raising, taught me the importance of cooperative agencies, shown the need for establishing the production phase of ranching on a business basis, and demonstrated the principles of scientific cattle raising. I have found that the success of the purebred livestock business depends largely upon three outstanding facts: Individuality of the herd; showmanship, including feed, care, and management; and salesmanship."

Other boys and girls become interested in the work of the club and ask to join. Their applications are passed on by club members and by the board of directors, composed of four

parents and the club leader. When approved, the new member must furnish one-third of the cost of the stock he is to use for club purposes and finance the balance through the club. In this way, the boy or girl learns the importance of livestock financing, and at the same time the club is protected.

A committee of two Gunnison County stockmen and the club leader select the stock purchased by the club members. Additional females are added as the boys and girls want them and are able to take care of them. Stock is selected on the basis of established type and uniformity.

According to Agent McIlvaine, the club members realize that they have been receiving very favorable prices for their bulls. Each club member is trying to build up a sound business enterprise that will meet any emergency, and each boy and girl in the club is learning about the great livestock-production industry of Gunnison County and of Colorado.

Secretary Wickard On Relations With Farm Organizations

■ It has long been the established policy of this Department that its officers and employees shall refrain from taking any part in activities of farm organizations. This is a necessary corollary of the equally long-established policy of the Department that it shall deal fairly with all farm organizations and deal with each upon the same basis.

As a continuation of this policy, it should be understood by all officers and employees of the Department that it is not permissible for any of them to

1. Participate in establishing any general farm organization.

2. Act as organizer for any such general farm organization, or hold any other office therein.

3. Act as financial or business agent for any general farm organization.

4. Participate in any way in any membership campaign or other activity designed to recruit members for any such organization.

The phrase, "general farm organization," used in this memorandum is intended to refer to such national, regional, or State farm organizations as, among others, the National Grange, the American Farm Bureau Federation, the Farmers' Union, the Farmers' Equity League, the Missouri Farmers' Association, the Farmers' Holiday Association, and their regional, State, and local constituent groups.

This statement should not be construed as implying an unfriendly attitude toward farm organization. Farmers, like other great economic groups in our society, require nongovernmental organizations through which they may develop and express their hopes, aspirations, and desires; through which they may

make our democratic processes vital; through which, collectively, they may reach the right people at the right time. But the Department must distinguish clearly between what it is proper for a nongovernmental farm organization to do and what it is proper for a governmental employee to do. The same reasoning which led to the congressional enactment that governmental employees should not directly or indirectly take any action to influence the legislative process (except through the established procedures of government) also leads to the conclusion that official personnel must not aid in the formation or development of farm organizations, no matter how desirable they may be.

Employees may, of course, participate in the organization of groups that are needed in carrying out federally authorized programs—for example, an REA cooperative, a cooperative of FSA borrowers, and similar groups determined by the appropriate chief of bureau to be essential in effectuating federally authorized programs. Even here, however, care must be exercised, because the Department does not wish to see this type of specialized organization develop into a general farm organization. Certainly, it is contrary to policy for local groups that participate in Federal-program effectuation to federate into State, regional, or national organizations.—*Claude R. Wickard, Secretary.*

■ Ten thousand loblolly pine seedlings have been furnished by the Durham Rotary Club for a 4-H Club tree-planting contest in Durham County, N. C.

Do You Know H. N. Wells, the Dean of New England County Agents?



■ When H. N. Wells of Sullivan County, N. H., retired from county agent work November 30, 1940, the end of a long and eventful chapter in the history of extension work in the Northeast was indicated. Although Mr. Wells was not the first agent in this first county in New Hampshire to have a county agricultural agent his service spans almost the whole period of Smith-Lever extension work, as he started as county agent December 1, 1914.

In that period of 26 years, Mr. Wells saw a far-from-popular experiment in county agent work grow into a firmly established and universally recognized adult educational movement. He saw the county take the second step in the development of county extension work by the launching of home demonstration work in July 1916, with Kathryn Woods, the first county home demonstration agent of the Northern and Western States, in charge. Club work was started in 1917.

Mr. Wells pioneered in broad programs of social and economic improvement. When he helped neighbors to pool orders for feed and fertilizer in 1915 and 1916, he was helping them to take steps which led to the organization of cooperative exchanges that now do millions of dollars worth of business a year in New Hampshire.

In the early days when the tuberculosis-eradication plan was violently opposed, he unhesitatingly took the lead in cooperating with the United States Bureau of Animal Industry in its attack upon bovine tuberculosis, with the result that Sullivan County became the first county in New Hampshire and one of the first in New England to be declared a modified accredited area.

The Nu Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi, organized December 7, 1927, elected him chief, a position which he held until his resignation upon retirement from county agent work.

As the oldest county agent in point of service in New England, he was honored at an impressive gathering at the Statler Hotel, Boston, December 23, 1940, when Station WEEI of the Columbia Broadcasting System gave a complimentary luncheon to county agents, commissioners of agriculture, and other agricultural leaders and presented a gold watch to him.

The high estimation of Mr. Wells' good judgment and organizing ability was not limited to his associates in extension work and in agricultural circles. Businessmen and other citizens recognized his ability and looked to him for advice and leadership in many difficult situations.

Mr. Wells' work in the extension field was not terminated with his resignation as agricultural agent. He will be in charge of a temporary project to further develop and extend the Connecticut Valley Breeding Association, a project in artificial insemination in which he has a deep interest.

He will not only engage in educational and organization work locally but will make a survey of progress and experience in the application of this breeding method in other parts of the United States.

Increases AAA Sign-up

Increases of as much as 50 percent are being reported in the AAA sign-up in some townships of Winnebago County, Ill., as a result of a plan worked out by County Agent H. R. Brunnemeyer and the county and community committeemen to give farmers a better understanding of the AAA program and what it is intended to accomplish.

The plan was devised after several meetings with the county AAA committee and one with the county committee and all township chairmen.

Arrangements were made to hold a series of meetings with sound films of general interest on soil conservation and one on seed cleaning and treating. This was to be followed by a panel discussion in charge of township chairmen and township committeemen, backed up by a member of the county committee and the county agent. Questions were to be directed and answered in such a manner as to bring out the main features of the program and to develop as much discussion from the floor as possible.

Farmers and their wives were invited. The press and radio and illustrated letters were

used to get farmers to these meetings. An intensive telephone call plan was used whereby each committeeman was required to call a stated number of farmers in his township or, in the absence of a telephone, to see them personally and extend invitations to these meetings. Fine cooperation was given by Rockford newspapers and radio station in publicizing the AAA and agricultural extension programs.

In addition to these meetings, every opportunity was used by AAA leaders to talk at parent-teacher association, Farm Bureau, grange, and other meetings. Another farmer-businessmen's meeting is planned.

Sixteen meetings were held with an approximate attendance of 1,000, which was approximately one-third more than the attendance at the previous series. Comments which preceded this series and those which followed indicated that farmers wanted less of the cut-and-dried manner of presenting AAA educational material and more participation by farmers themselves. In this they had their way and came through in a surprisingly good way. It was learned, among other things, that personal invitations to attend meetings get folks out and that the majority of AAA committeemen are well informed on this program.

Committeemen really made it their business to start discussion and helped in keeping discussion alive. They also took seriously the suggestion that, along with newspaper, radio, and illustrated circular letter publicity, they personally remind farmers of these educational meetings by use of the telephone or extending personal invitations. The meetings also were well attended by homemakers.

The sound film, *Black Scourge*, obtained through J. C. Hackleman, crops extension specialist, was used at these meetings in connection with a seed cleaning and treating service now in operation in the county for the first season. With the help of this educational film, this service started with orders to clean and treat 8,000 bushels of small grain. Additional orders came in daily.

Reports following the sign-up in townships where meetings have been held show that a good increase over last year is resulting. One township, which reported 45 in the 1940 sign-up, reported 61 this time. Others are not as high, but most all are showing increases.

New 4-H Scholarship

A new 4-H Club scholarship has been established by Alpha Gamma Rho, a national agriculture fraternity which will award \$200 annually to an outstanding 4-H Club boy to be used for any full-term course at any State college of agriculture.

The plan is to allow each State club leader to nominate two candidates annually. The selection will be made by the extension committee on 4-H Club work or its representatives.

Qualifications of 4-H Leaders

Certain "dynamic" and "essential" qualities enter into successful 4-H leadership, according to a recent study of 412 4-H Clubs in Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin.

Most closely related to successful 4-H leadership were four "dynamic" factors, namely:

- Plans work ahead.
- Perseverance—slow to give up.
- Knows subject matter to be taught.
- Gets others to help assume responsibility.

Each of these qualifications was possessed by about half the leaders surveyed. The clubs of these leaders had higher percentages of their members completing and reenrolling than did the clubs of leaders who did not possess the "dynamic" qualities.

Most of the leaders studied had the following eight "essential" qualifications:

- Liked by the boys and girls.
- Enthusiastic about 4-H Club work.
- Sincere liking for boys and girls.
- Unselfish—enjoys working with others.
- Good cooperater—works well with others.
- Liked and respected by parents and community.
- Strict standard for sportsmanship and honesty.
- Interested in better community and rural life.

Persons who did not possess the "essential" qualifications were seldom successful as 4-H leaders. However, many who did possess these qualities had less than average success. The eight "essential" qualifications may be considered as a necessary foundation but in themselves they are not enough. Leaders are most successful if they have both the "essential" and the "dynamic" qualities.

The report of the study summarizing data on 1,056 leaders is available to those requesting it, in Extension Service Circular 347.

Rural Youth Conduct Their Own Study

What are the opportunities for the young men and women of Blackford County, Ind., to become farm operators and farm homemakers? How many young people are there in the county and what are their characteristics? What problems will have a bearing on their opportunities?

To answer these questions, the members of Blackford County's rural youth club with the cooperation of the agricultural agent, Purdue University and the United States Department of Agriculture, obtained information by personal interview from most of the rural young people in the county, 18 to 28 years of age.

The survey reveals such information as: About one-fourth of the rural young men were farming for themselves or in partnership with their fathers; one-fifth were working at home for board, lodging, and spending money; one-tenth were working at home for wages; one-fourth were employed primarily away from home and one-sixth were in school.

EXTENSION RESEARCH

Studying Our Job of Extension Teaching

Growing out of these facts, discussions in the older-youth group, known as the Country Life Club, are centered around such questions as: How did the young men who are farming for themselves, get started in farming?

The study is reported in a Purdue University publication, Rural Youth, Blackford County, Ind.

One-Sixth of Our 4-H Clubs Die Each Year

Each year approximately 13,000 4-H Clubs fail to reorganize. This number is based on a study by Paul Thayer. Using a sample from all parts of the country, he found that 1 club in 6 died each year. New clubs are organized to replace the ones that fail to reorganize. However, about 1 in 4 of the new clubs does not last for more than 1 year. Approximately 55 percent of the 4-H Clubs organized die in their first, second, or third year.

The study indicates that small clubs are more likely to die than large ones. More detailed data obtained in one State indicated that clubs starting with 16 or more members were twice as likely to live 4 years or longer as were clubs starting with an enrollment of 8 members or less.

Mr. Thayer, 4-H Club agent in Albany County, N. Y., spent his year of sabbatic leave in Washington, D. C. The study he made was submitted as a thesis to American University, where he received his master's degree.

Some Broadcasts Are Effective

When you have a radio audience of 4-H girls, what style of presentation are you going to use? Lillian Murphy, home demonstration agent in Vigo County, Ind., and National 4-H Fellowship student in 1939-40, tried three types of broadcasts to present material on how to press woolen garments.

BULLETIN STYLE—"Wool garments need to be pressed often because the wool fiber absorbs moisture from humid air as well as from direct contact with a liquid. If the fiber is allowed to go without pressing, its surface will become rough and uneven. Pressing is not ironing. It is the combination of heat, the right amount of steam, and some pressure that turns the garment from a poorly pressed to a well-pressed garment."

INFORMAL TALK—"But if you don't have any more money to spend on new clothes than I have you are wearing the same skirt you wore last fall. And I know you can do it and still look nice if you take time to press it about once a week. You notice I say press, not iron. Pressing is quite different from ironing. In fact ironing is apt to ruin your wool skirt . . ."

INTERVIEW—VELMA. I've worn it all winter.

LILLIAN. Why, it looks like new.

VELMA. Well—I do press it almost every week. You know . . . I think keeping it pressed makes a big difference.

LILLIAN. It surely does. And it also makes a big difference how you press it. Do you take long strokes with the iron?

VELMA. No, ironing is quite different from pressing. Long strokes would stretch the wool dress, wouldn't it?

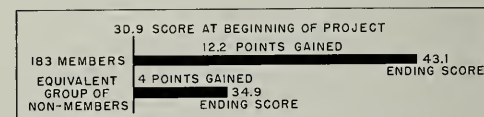
LILLIAN. That's right. I was just checking.

Each 5-minute broadcast was closed by telling the group of girls who heard it that they could obtain the bulletin, How to Press Woolens, by writing to the home demonstration agent. Sixteen percent of those hearing the bulletin-style talk, 45 percent of those who heard the informal talk, and 72 percent of those who heard the interview sent for it.

A test given 2 weeks later showed that those who heard the informal talk and the interview had learned almost three times as much as those hearing the bulletin-style broadcast. The conversational type of presentation, whether one or two voices were used, was better liked and brought better results. (Extension Service Circular 352, The Use of Radio in 4-H Work.)

One-Sixth of Our 4-H Clubs Die Members Learn?

Massachusetts 4-H Club members of Franklin, Hampden, and Hampshire Counties, learned three times as much about food preservation as an equivalent group of nonmembers. To compare the growth in information of the two groups, 183 members of food preservation clubs and 216 girls who were not enrolled in the work were tested at the beginning of the project period in May 1939, and again the following October. Members gained 12.2 points as compared with only 4 points gained by the nonmembers.



This is the second in a series of evaluation studies to measure the effects of 4-H Club work on boys and girls in terms of 4-H educational objectives. The full report of the study on this and other objectives appears in Extension Service Circular 356.



Young Puerto Ricans judge livestock at the Ponce Fair, one of the big 4-H events of the year.

Puerto Rico 4-H'ers at the Fair

■ Many of the island's 7,400 4-H Club members attended the annual agricultural fair held last April in Ponce, P. R. The fair is the only opportunity that club members from all over the island have of exhibiting their projects—agricultural products, animals, and handicraft articles, in competition.

The fair, in short, rounded out the 4-H Club program. It served as a means of education, recreation, competition, sportsmanship, cooperation with other authorities, and, through exhibits, led toward better health and nutrition.

Although held primarily for adult farmers, young 4-H Club members took an active part in most activities. Daily demonstrations were given on selection of Sea Island cottonseed; making useful household articles from tire tubes; determination of active acidity of soil; corn seed selection; sewing; grading and packing vegetables for export; rabbit skin tanning; tobacco classification; picture framing; and uses of coconut husks.

Competing agricultural products raised as projects included bananas, plantains, onions, Sea Island cotton, tobacco, yams, tanners, tomatoes, cabbage, pumpkins, eggplant, and a wealth of other vegetables. The home demonstration building was well stocked with needlework, canned goods, and handicraft with which club girls were vying for honors. Squeals from the pigpens and crows from the chicken coops testified that animals they had raised were also up for competition.

Saturday, April 26, was given over to club members. A parade was held in which hundreds of youngsters participated. Months be-

fore the fair, clubs throughout the island held social activities to raise funds to pay for their transportation so that they could be there that day.

The main event of the day was livestock and poultry judging. For weeks in advance, county agents had been training judging teams which represented their districts. Silver cups were given to the teams making first and second place, and a gold medal was awarded to the boy having the highest individual score. Never before has competition been so keen, nor such good sportsmanship displayed as this year.

Young clubbers observed the last word in approved agricultural practices demonstrated by the many educational exhibits. They were aware of the stress being given to the live-at-home and subsistence-garden program. Farm and home exhibits showed the variety and quality of products grown on the farm. Exhibits of home demonstration work gave a broader view of the possibilities of developing the rural home into a more attractive and healthful place in which to live, whereas home industry displays suggested new ways of increasing the family income.

Contest Serves Dual Purpose

The Maryland Ten-Ton Tomato Club contest was started in 1928, primarily for the "contest" purpose. It has become such an important means for furthering the tomato production program in the State that it has been

carried on year after year, principally for this latter purpose.

The object, as now stated, is to stimulate interest among growers in the most efficient methods of producing tomatoes for canning. Higher yields per acre generally result in greater profit for the growers and better quality for the canners.

A good part of the value of the contest lies in the fact that the average grower who optionally enters such a contest will naturally make an added effort to produce a credible yield. For this reason, it has seemed just as desirable to secure the enrollment of the growers who normally produce an average yield as the exceptional ones who may be prize winners. Both will probably increase their normal yields by a significant percentage by applying a little more manure, working the land another time or two, using a little more fertilizer or going to more trouble to put it on properly, growing or obtaining better plants, planting at an earlier date, cultivating more thoroughly and carefully, and doing a good many of those infinitely little things that go to make for better production.

Over the period of years, this contest has come to be known to a good majority of the tomato growers of the State, even those who would not enter such a contest. During its 13 years, over 2,500 growers have been enrolled in the contest. Rather keen rivalry has developed among certain groups of growers in several of the counties, and the individual growers sometimes think as much about beating their neighbors' records as they do about making a good showing in the State contest.

Perhaps the most important phase of the project is the publicity which can be given to production practices of the winners and other members. We have found—and I think it is generally true—that growers give more consideration to publicity of other growers' practices than they do to more formal reports, bulletins, or recommendations prepared by the crop specialists.

The winners of the contest are always asked to discuss their production practices at the annual canning crops school, where the prizes are presented and a report of these practices prepared for one or more of the farm journals. The county agents sometimes have their winners tell of their production practices at local meetings. Several news releases concerning the contest get good space in the county papers.

While no actual figures of the influence of this contest in extending the tomato program are available, it is definitely felt that many phases of the program are indirectly put across by this means far more effectively than by any other means at our disposal. The average yield of the club members during the 13 years of the contest is 12.14 tons per acre, as compared to the average yield of all growers in the State of 3.5 tons for the same period.—*Herman A. Hunter, canning crops specialist, Maryland.*

AMONG OURSELVES

■ DR. W. T. SPANTON, for the past 16 years Federal agent for agricultural education in the Pacific region, has been appointed Chief of the Agricultural Education Service, United States Office of Education. He succeeds J. A. Linke who has held this position since 1934 and whose retirement from service was effective March 31.

During the past year, Dr. Spanton has been serving under the Assistant United States Commissioner for Vocational Education, Dr. J. C. Wright, in the capacity of assistant administrator of defense-training programs for out-of-school rural and nonrural youth and for the young persons employed by the National Youth Administration on work projects. Approximately 200,000 young people have entered courses in these programs since January 1, 1941.

■ MRS. NELLIE W. TAYLOR, the only home demonstration agent of Orange County, Fla., where she has served for 25 years, was recently paid tribute by the home demonstration clubs and other organizations of the county. Surprising her on the occasion of their second annual home demonstration achievement day, the homemakers presented Mrs. Taylor with a silver tray on which were engraved the names of all nine clubs she had organized in the county. A representative of the Central Florida Exposition also presented her with a token of appreciation.

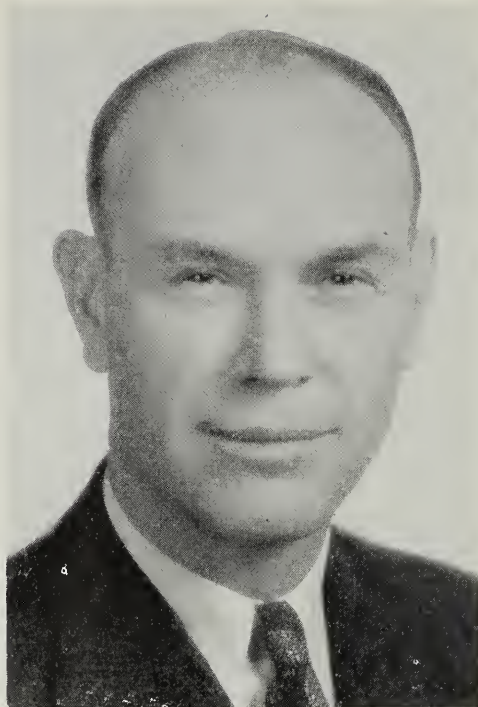
4-H Club members sang for the occasion and appeared in a dress revue. Speakers on the program included Mary E. Keown, State home demonstration leader; a representative of the county commissioners; and County Agent K. C. Moore.

Mrs. Taylor organized the first school-lunch program in Florida 24 years ago.

■ JOHN V. HEPLER, who has been district extension supervisor with Kansas State College for the past 10 years, became director of the South Dakota State College Extension Service April 1, succeeding A. M. Eberle, who is now dean of agriculture at the college.

The extension director is a veteran of 24 years' experience in extension work; and, with the exception of 1 year, all of it has been in the northern and northwestern Kansas counties. He spent 1 year, 1920, as assistant county agent leader for the New Mexico State College Extension Service and 1 year before entering extension work as a vocational agriculture teacher in Kansas.

Mr. Hepler was born and reared on a farm near Manhattan, Kans., and was graduated from Kansas State in agriculture in 1915.



John V. Hepler

He became emergency demonstration agent in Ford County, Kans., in 1917, and regular county agent there in 1919. He was transferred to Washington County in 1921, which position he held until 1930 when he became district supervisor.

Live at Home

"One indispensable in strengthening our national life is a well-fed, well-clothed, well-housed farm people," said Gov. Burnet R. Maybank in his radio address at the awarding of certificates to the 2,800 South Carolina farm families who were certified as having produced 75 percent or more of their needed food and feed in 1940. The certificates were presented at gatherings at each county seat where special programs were conducted by South Carolina county extension agents, agricultural teachers, and local citizens.

■ "Improve the pasture and increase the income" has become the official slogan of the pasture-improvement campaign being undertaken by Maine dairymen this year. A farm woman, Mrs. Eva M. Kyes, wrote the slogan that took first place in the contest sponsored by the Maine Farm Bureau Federation and received a \$15 award at the pasture program during farm and home week.

■ Three prizes, totaling 35,000 slash-pine seedlings, have been awarded to Georgia 4-H Club boys in a forestry contest. The contest was designed to encourage better forestry practices among 4-H Club members and was sponsored by a Treutlen County farmer in cooperation with the Extension Service.

IN BRIEF

4-H Foresters

Farm boys and girls of the State of New York are planting more than a million and a half trees on waste land in 44 counties this spring. The youthful foresters include 1,132 4-H Club members as well as students of vocational agriculture in high schools. Allegany County leads the 4-H parade this year with 104,000 trees set out; Erie follows with 85,000, then Delaware with 62,000 and Broome with 53,000.

Each young tree planter receives 1,000 free trees from the State conservation department in a program in which the New York State Education Department and Extension Service are cooperating. New York 4-H Club members have set out more than a million trees annually since 1926.

In Color

The Delaware County, Pa., agricultural extension association recently celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary with a special pictorial section in the Delaware County Advocate, a local picture magazine. Eight pages of this paper were illustrated with 17 black-and-white and 12 color pictures of extension activities, photographed by County Agent H. O. Wilcox. An interesting historical article accompanied the pictures. The color cuts were approximately 3 by 4½ inches and were enlarged from 35-millimeter color transparencies. This is the first time in Pennsylvania that extension pictures have been taken from 35-millimeter transparencies (2-by-2-inch color slides) and published in color through the cooperation of a local newspaper.

Travel School

Open to extension workers is the sociological field course on southern conditions called The Open Road which Columbia University is offering from July 14 to August 16. This travel course, similar to that given the last 2 years, aims to acquaint students with the regional civilization of the South—its material and cultural life, and the interplay of economic and social forces.

The locale will be Greenville County, S. C., following an orientation period in Washington, D. C., where the course will start. Prof. W. C. Hallenbeck of Teachers College, Columbia University; and Gordon W. Blackwell, a southern sociologist; will conduct the course. Applications should be addressed to Professor Hallenbeck, Teachers College, Columbia University, N. Y.

They Say Today

Preparedness and 4-H Club Work

■ Wars are fought and won by the youth of the Nation. It is highly pertinent that youth know in advance what it is preparing for and what preparation is necessary. The thing that is uppermost in the Nation's mind just now is to be free to live the life we want to live, to have a voice in how we shall be governed, to worship in accordance with our conscience, to publicly approve right or rebuke wrong, to be governed by the majority and by just laws, to walk upright, and to fear no man.

In regard to abundant supplies, the Nation in its preparedness program must provide abundant food and fiber supplies, both for itself and for its allies. 4-H Club members are helping to augment the Nation's food and fiber supplies and will continue to do so. Not only are present members making their contribution to increased food and fiber supplies in their project work but also a substantial proportion of the 8 million former members who now manage or operate farms and homes of their own and who are profiting by their 4-H Club experience. All our years of work in carrying on production projects are seen to be fundamental preparation for the Nation's preparedness program immediately before us. You do not go astray when you teach youth how to grow crops and livestock and to produce and preserve food. Club leaders will want to continue and strengthen this part of the club program.

Second, as to building a strong army—able armies are built from able men. Wars are won by the side having the most foresight, the greatest intelligence, and the best leadership. The best soldiers are intelligent soldiers. 4-H Club work builds self-reliant, resourceful, intelligent men and women. And in modern war both men and women are involved. The chief business of 4-H Club work in the preparedness program would seem to be to keep right on producing self-reliant, resourceful, capable men and women. That is one thing of which the nations never produce a surplus. We may have 50,000 planes, 800 fighting ships that guard the seas, and 12,000 tanks to protect our land; but, unless we have able, resourceful, intelligent men to make them effective in battle, we shall still be a weak nation.—C. B. Smith, from talk given at National 4-H Club Congress, Chicago, Ill., December 3, 1940.

Faith

Some time in the Middle Ages man aroused himself as from a deep sleep and began to realize that he was a human being not to be trampled under foot and treated as a slave. Slowly and surely there was developed the

Magna Charta. A band of Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock, an American Revolution, a Declaration of Independence, a Constitution with its Bill of Rights—What was the spirit back of Concord, Lexington, and Bunker Hill? What held those half-starved patriots at Valley Forge? It was a deep-seated faith that a man had a right to life, liberty, and happiness.

It is faith that inspires such poems as Love of Country and such lines as My Country, 'tis of Thee, I Love Thy Rocks and Rills, and Our Fathers' God, to Thee, Author of Liberty, to Thee We Sing.

If you ask why the chaotic condition of the world, one might reply, "God is not a dictator, and man failing to accept the rules of life offered him stumbles along, relying on himself." If one asks why things move so slowly, one might reply, "The time of creation is not measured as man measures it, but in the hands of the Creator a thousand years are but a day." Measuring time by that standard, Christ has been dead less than 2 days, and Columbus discovered America but a few hours ago.

If there is nothing else to offer youth of today, we can bid him have faith—faith in God, faith in his country, faith in humanity, and faith in himself. Bid him move forward flanked by faith, hope, and love.—George L. Farley, Amherst, Mass., in talk given at the Annual State Extension Conference, December 11, 1940.

Your Child and Mine

Occasionally we hear criticism of our young people. Sometimes it is cynical, sometimes intolerant, usually unjustified. The fact is that never before has our farm youth been clearer in its thinking and cleaner in its living. Truth is that young men and young women have a confident and wholesome outlook and are well equipped to assume the responsibilities and privileges of citizenship.

Our young people are taking advantage of modern educational facilities that are sound and practical. They are laying the ground work for development into better farmers, better homemakers, better cooperators, better men, better women.

Have you recently been to a State or local fair and seen the livestock and poultry exhibits of the club boys and girls? Have you heard a 4-H band or orchestra? Have you seen demonstrations of how our girls are learning to prepare well-balanced meals, to care for the sick, to run the home? Have you talked with 4-H and Future Farmers of America boys about their plans for farm ownership and management? If your answers are not affirmative, then you do not know young people of the farm.

Certainly we are living in a period of unrest and anxiety. Certainly there are too few

things settled or sacred. Certainly the days ahead will bring further problems and demand definite sacrifices. But our young people are going to meet those situations with courage and confidence and ability. They are going to make this country a still better place in which to live. The youth of today are our guaranty of, and justify our confidence in, the safety and soundness of tomorrow. Doubt it not.—J. K. Doughton, general agent, The Farm Credit Administration of Baltimore, in Farm Credit Messenger, March 1941.

ON THE CALENDAR

- National AAA Annual Conference to Consider the 1942 Program, Washington, D. C., June 10-13.
- Seventy-fifth Anniversary, University of New Hampshire, with National, Regional, and State Associations Cooperating, Durham, N. H., June 17-27.
- American Association for the Advancement of Science, Durham, N. H., June 23-27.
- National Apple Institute Annual Meeting, Columbus, Ohio, June 16-18.
- National 4-H Club Camp, Washington, D. C., June 18-25.
- American Home Economics Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, Ill., June 22-26.
- American Dairy Science Association Annual Meeting, University of Vermont, Burlington, Vt., June 23-27.
- American Society of Agricultural Engineers, Knoxville, Tenn., June 23-26.
- National Dairy Council Annual Summer Conference, Chicago, Ill., June 26-28.
- National Tour of Consumer Cooperatives Sponsored by the Cooperative League of the United States, and starting at Columbus, Ohio, July 7-19.
- American Association of Agricultural College Editors, Kingston, R. I., July 13-19.
- Thirty-third Annual Convention, Vegetable Growers Association of America, Columbus, Ohio, August 4-7.
- National Dairy Show, Memphis, Tenn., October 11-18.

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